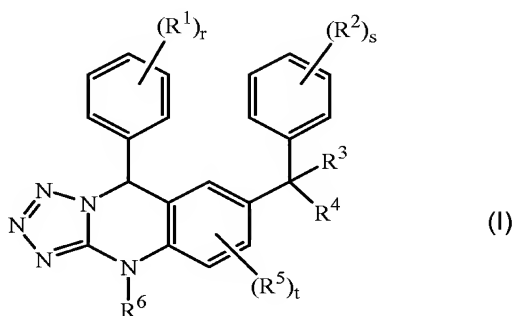


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula (I):



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or N-oxide or stereochemically isomeric form thereof, wherein

r and s are each independently 0, 1, 2 or 3;

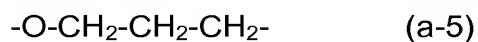
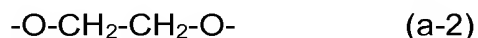
t is 0, 1, or 2;

each R¹ and R² are independently hydroxy, halo, cyano, nitro, C₁₋₆alkyl, -(CR¹⁶R¹⁷)_p, -C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, cyanoC₁₋₆alkyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl, hydroxycarbonylC₁₋₆alkyl, R²⁰SC₁₋₆alkyl, trihalomethyl, arylC₁₋₆alkyl, Het¹C₁₋₆alkyl, -C₁₋₆alkyl-NR¹⁸R¹⁹, -C₁₋₆alkylNR¹⁸C₁₋₆alkyl-NR¹⁸R¹⁹, -C₁₋₆alkylNR¹⁸COC₁₋₆alkyl, -C₁₋₆alkylNR¹⁸COAlkAr¹, -C₁₋₆alkylNR¹⁸COAr¹, C₁₋₆alkylsulphonylaminoC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyloxy, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyloxy, -OC₁₋₆alkyl-NR¹⁸R¹⁹, trihalomethoxy, arylC₁₋₆alkyloxy, Het¹C₁₋₆alkyloxy, C₂₋₆alkenyl, cyanoC₂₋₆alkenyl, -C₂₋₆alkenyl-NR¹⁸R¹⁹, hydroxycarbonylC₂₋₆alkenyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonylC₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, -CHO, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl, -CONR¹⁸R¹⁹, -CONR¹⁸-C₁₋₆alkyl-NR¹⁸R¹⁹, -CONR¹⁸-C₁₋₆alkyl-Het¹, -CONR¹⁸-C₁₋₆alkyl-Ar¹, -CONR¹⁸-O-C₁₋₆alkyl, -CONR¹⁸-C₁₋₆alkenyl, -NR¹⁸R¹⁹, -OC(O)R²⁰, -CR²⁰=NR²¹, -CR²⁰=N-OR²¹, -NR²⁰C(O)NR¹⁸R¹⁹, -NR²⁰SO₂R²¹, -NR²⁰C(O)R²¹, -S-R²⁰, -S(O)-R²⁰, -S(O)₂R²⁰, -SO₂NR²⁰R²¹, -C(NR²²R²³)=NR²⁴, or a group of formula



in which R^{Y} is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl and Z is phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or more heteroatoms selected from oxygen, sulphur and nitrogen, the phenyl or heterocyclic ring being optionally substituted by one or two substituents each independently selected from halo, cyano, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio, hydroxy, $-\text{NR}^{18}\text{R}^{19}$, C_{1-6} alkylsulphonylamino, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy or phenyl;
or

two R^1 and R^2 substituents adjacent to one another on the phenyl ring may independently form together a bivalent radical of formula



R^{16} and R^{17} are independently hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^{18} and R^{19} are independently hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl or

$-(\text{CR}^{16}\text{R}^{17})_{\text{p}}-\text{C}_{3-10}$ cycloalkyl, or together with the adjacent nitrogen atom form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one, two or three further heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen or sulphur and optionally substituted by one or two substituents each independently selected from halo, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, OCF_3 , hydroxycarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di- $(\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl)aminocarbonyl, amino, mono- or di- $(\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl)amino, C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino, oxime, or phenyl;

R^{20} and R^{21} are independently hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl,

$-(\text{CR}^{16}\text{R}^{17})_{\text{p}}-\text{C}_{3-10}$ cycloalkyl or aryl C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^{22} , R^{23} and R^{24} are independently hydrogen and C_{1-6} alkyl or $\text{C}(\text{O}) \text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl;

p is 0 or 1;

R^3 is hydrogen, halo, cyano, C_{1-6} alkyl, $-(\text{CR}^{16}\text{R}^{17})_{\text{p}}-\text{C}_{3-10}$ cycloalkyl, halo C_{1-6} alkyl, cyano C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxycarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl, $-\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl- $\text{NR}^{18}\text{R}^{19}$, $-\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl- $\text{CONR}^{18}\text{R}^{19}$, aryl C_{1-6} alkyl, Het¹ C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, $-\text{C}_{2-6}$ alkenyl $\text{NR}^{18}\text{R}^{19}$, C_{2-6} alkynyl,

hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl, aryl, or Het¹ ; or
a radical of formula



wherein R⁷ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, -(CR¹⁶R¹⁷)_p -C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, arylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl or -C₁₋₆alkylC(O)OC₁₋₆alkyl NR¹⁸R¹⁹, or a radical of formula -Alk-OR¹⁰ or -Alk-NR¹¹R¹²;

R⁸ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, -(CR¹⁶R¹⁷)_p -C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl or C₂₋₆alkynyl;

R⁹ is hydrogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₆alkyl, -(CR¹⁶R¹⁷)_p -C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonylC₁₋₆alkyl, arylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, aryl, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, a group of formula -NR¹⁸R¹⁹, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonylamino, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl, haloC₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl, arylC₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl, trihaloC₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminocarbonyl wherein the alkyl moiety may optionally be substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from aryl and C₁₋₆alkyloxycarbonyl substituents; aminocarbonylcarbonyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl, or a radical of formula -Alk-OR¹⁰ or Alk-NR¹¹R¹²;

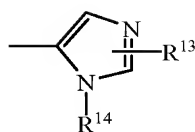
wherein Alk is C₁₋₆alkanediyl;

R¹⁰ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, -(CR¹⁶R¹⁷)_p -C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl or hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl;

R¹¹ is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, -(CR¹⁶R¹⁷)_p -C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl or C₂₋₆alkynyl;

R¹² is hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, -(CR¹⁶R¹⁷)_p -C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl or C₁₋₆alkylcarbonyl;

R⁴ is a radical of formula



(c-1)

wherein R^{13} is hydrogen, halo or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^{14} is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

;

R^5 is cyano, hydroxy, halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, $-(CR^{16}R^{17})_p-C_{3-10}$ cycloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, hydroxycarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, or a group of formula $-NR^{18}R^{19}$ or $-CONR^{18}R^{19}$;

R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, $-(CR^{16}R^{17})_p-C_{3-10}$ cycloalkyl, cyano C_{1-6} alkyl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl CO_2R^{20} , aminocarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl- $NR^{18}R^{19}$, $R^{20}SO_2$, $R^{20}SO_2C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl- OR^{20} , $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl- SR^{20} , $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl $CONR^{18}-C_{1-6}$ alkyl- $NR^{18}R^{19}$, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl $CONR^{18}-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-Het¹, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl $CONR^{18}-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-Ar¹, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl $CONR^{18}-Het^1$, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl $CONR^{18}Ar^1$, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl $CONR^{18}-O-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl $CONR^{18}-C_{1-6}$ alkenyl, $-Alk-Ar^1$ or $-AlkHet^1$;

Ar¹ is phenyl, naphthyl or phenyl or naphthyl substituted by one to five substituents each independently selected from halo, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo C_{1-6} alkyl, $-alkylNR^{18}R^{19}$, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, OCF_3 , hydroxycarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, $-CONR^{18}R^{19}$, $-NR^{18}R^{19}$, C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino, oxime, phenyl, or a bivalent substituent of formula

$-O-CH_2-O-$ or

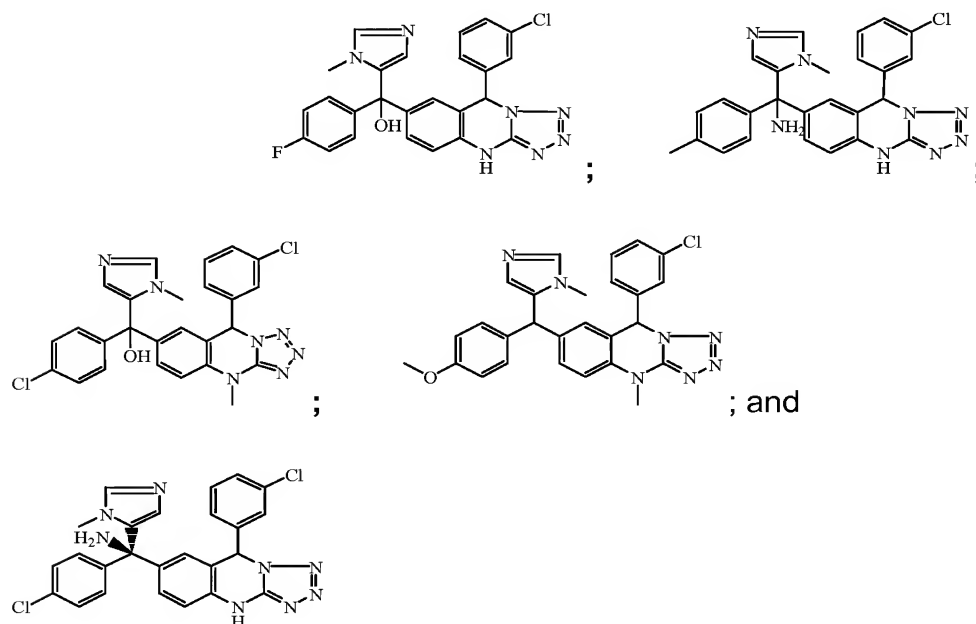
$-O-CH_2-CH_2-O-$;

Het¹ is a mono- or bi-cyclic heterocyclic ring containing one or more heteroatoms selected from oxygen, sulphur and nitrogen and optionally substituted by one or two substituents each independently selected from halo, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, C_{1-6} alkyl, halo C_{1-6} alkyl, $-alkylNR^{18}R^{19}$, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, OCF_3 , hydroxycarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl, $-CONR^{18}R^{19}$, $-NR^{18}R^{19}$, C_{1-6} alkylsulfonylamino, oxime or phenyl.

12. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 11 wherein r is 1, s is 1 and t is 0; R^1 is halo; R^2 is halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy or C_{1-6} alkyloxycarbonyl; R^3 is hydrogen or a radical of formula (b-1) or (b-3) wherein R^7 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl, R^8 is hydrogen and R^9 is hydrogen; R^4 is a radical of formula (c-1) wherein

R^{13} is hydrogen, R^{14} is C_{1-6} alkyl ; and R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, $-(CH_2)_p-C_3-10$ cycloalkyl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkylCO₂ C_{1-6} alkyl or $-Alk-Ar^1$.

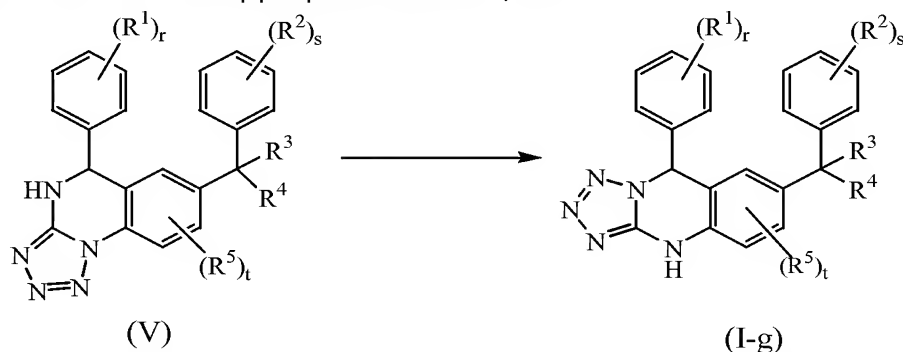
13. (Original) A compound according to claim 11 wherein r is 1, s is 1 and t is 0;
 R^1 is halo; R^2 is halo, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkyloxy; R^3 is hydrogen, hydroxy or amino;
 R^4 is a radical of formula (c-1) wherein R^{13} is hydrogen and R^{14} is C_{1-6} alkyl; and R^6 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl.
14. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 11 selected from the following compounds:



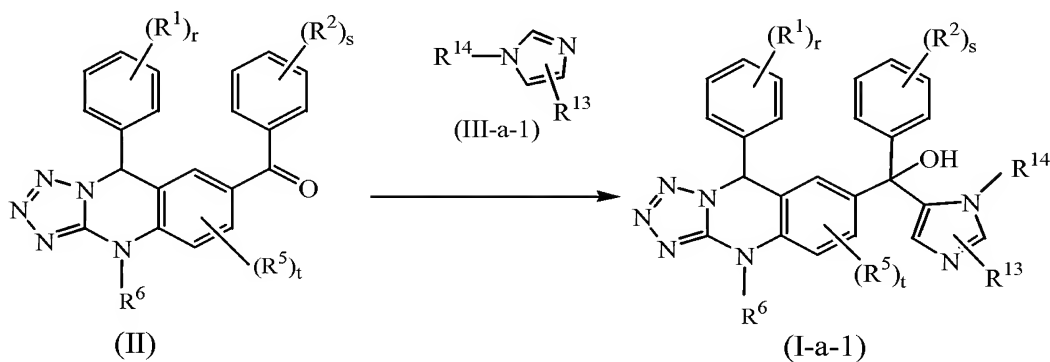
15. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and as an active ingredient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 11.
16. (Original) A process of preparing a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 15 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and the compound are intimately mixed.
17. (Canceled)
18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound as claimed in claim 11 which comprises:

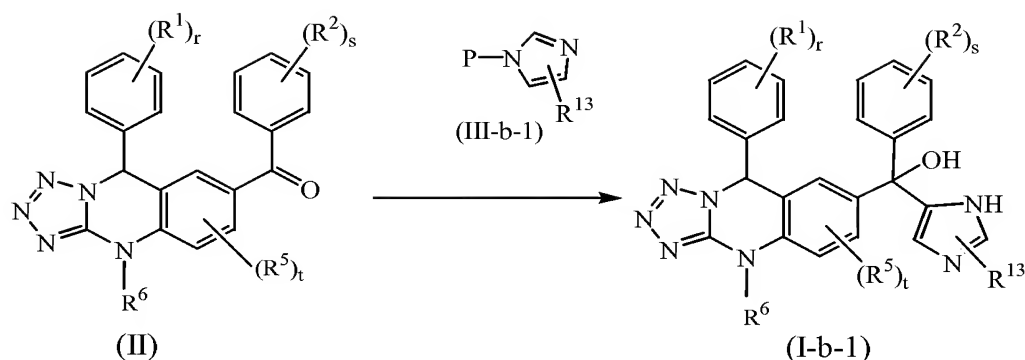
a) converting intermediates of formula (V) in compounds of formula (I) wherein R^6 is hydrogen said compounds being referred to as compounds of formula (I-g) by heating at 120 °C in an appropriate solvent; and



b) reacting an intermediate ketone of formula (II) with an intermediate imidazole of formula (III-a-1) wherein R^{14} is C_{1-6} alkyl with the formation of compounds of formula (I) wherein R^4 represents a radical of formula (c-1), R^3 is hydroxy and R^{14} is C_{1-6} alkyl, said compounds being referred to as compounds of formula (I-a-1); and



c) reacting an intermediate ketone of formula (II) with an intermediate imidazole reagent of formula (III-b-1) wherein P is an optional protective group and R^{14} is hydrogen and subsequently removal of P with the formation of a compound of formula (I) wherein R^4 is a radical of formula (c-1), R^3 is hydroxy and R^{14} is hydrogen said compound being referred to as compounds of formula (I-b-1); and



; and

‡ d) optionally effecting one or more of the following conversions in any desired order:

- (i) converting a compound of formula (I) into a different compound of formula (I);
- (ii) converting a compound of formula (I) into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or N-oxide thereof;
- (iii) converting a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or N-oxide of a compound of formula (I) into the parent compound of formula (I);
- (iv) preparing a stereochemical isomeric form of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or N-oxide thereof.